

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Pages 7 - 8 concurrently, replace the paragraph beginning at line 20 (as numbered) which starts "All the values" with the following:

All the values are expressed as mean \pm S.E.M. (Standard Error of Mean).

n (no. of rats) = 6 - 9 in each treatment group;

*p < 0.05 as compared to control (vehicle) (t-test);

a p < 0.05 as compared to per se treatments (ANOVA followed by Dunnett's test).

Single oral administration of ~~indomethacin~~ Indomethacin 20 mg/kg produced severe gastric damage (red colored, bleeding ulcers and disruption of mucus layer) in fasted animals with ulcer score of 66.25 ± 15.8 when compared to the control value of 2.25 ± 0.48 . Oral co-administration of Chondroitin Sulphate 50 mg/kg or 100 mg/kg with Indomethacin 20 mg/kg showed unexpected gastroprotection with ulcer scores of 23.0 ± 8.04 and 6.0 ± 3.07 , respectively. Also the extent of gastroprotection was dose dependent as evident from the ulcer index values for 50 and 100 mg/kg of Chondroitin sulphate administered together with 20 mg/kg of Indomethacin (Table 1).

Page 10, replace the paragraph beginning at line 8 (as numbered) which starts "1) Chondroitin sulphate" with the following:

1) Chondroitin sulphate, ~~indomethacin~~ Indomethacin, ~~microcrystalline~~ Microcrystalline cellulose and ~~mannitol~~ Mannitol are sifted and mixed together.

Page 10, replace the paragraph beginning at line 10 (as numbered) which starts "2) Talc, sodium" with the following:

2) Talc, ~~sodium~~ Sodium starch glycollate and ~~colloidal~~ Colloidal silicon dioxide are passed through fine sieves individually and then mixed together.

Page 10, replace the paragraph beginning at line 32 (as numbered) which starts "4) Talc, colloidal" with the following:

4) Talc, ~~colloidal~~ Colloidal silicon dioxide and ~~croscarmellose~~ Croscarmellose sodium are passed through fine sieve and mixed together.

Page 11, replace the paragraph beginning at lines 17 - 18 (as numbered) which starts "1) Chondroitin sulphate," with the following:

1) Chondroitin sulphate, ~~nimesulide, microcrystalline~~ Nimesulide, Microcrystalline cellulose, ~~mannitol, croscarmellose~~ Mannitol, Croscarmellose sodium and ~~lactose~~ Lactose are sifted and mixed together.

Page 11, replace the paragraph beginning at lines 21 - 22 (as numbered) which starts "4) Talc, colloidal" with the following:

4) Talc, ~~colloidal~~ silicon dioxide and ~~croscarmellose~~ Croscarmellose sodium are passed through fine sieve and mixed together.

Page 12, replace the paragraph beginning at lines 6 - 7 (as numbered) which starts "1) Dermatan sulphate" with the following:

1) Dermatan sulphate, ~~diclofenac~~ Diclofenac sodium, ~~microcrystalline~~ Microcrystalline cellulose, ~~mannitol~~ Mannitol, ~~croscarmellose~~ Croscarmellose sodium and ~~lactose~~ Lactose are sifted and mixed together.

Page 12, replace the paragraph beginning at line 10 (as numbered) which starts "4) Talc, colloidal" with the following:

4) Talc, ~~colloidal~~ Colloidal silicon dioxide and ~~croscarmellose~~ Croscarmellose sodium are passed through fine sieve and mixed together.

Page 12, replace the paragraph beginning at lines 28-29 (as numbered) which starts "1) Chondroitin suuphate" with the following:

1) Chondroitin sulphate, ~~nimesulide, microcrystalline~~ Nimesulide, Microcrystalline cellulose, ~~mannitol, croscarmellose~~ Mannitol, Croscarmellose sodium and ~~lactose~~ Lactose are sifted and mixed together.

Page 12, replace the paragraph beginning at line 32 (as numbered) which starts "4) Talc, colloidal" with the following:

4) Talc, ~~colloidal~~ Colloidal silicon dioxide and ~~croscarmellose~~ Croscarmellose sodium are passed through fine sieve and mixed together.

Page 13, replace the paragraph beginning at lines 27 - 28 (as numbered) which starts "1) Chondroitin sulphate," with the following:

1) Chondroitin sulphate, ~~diclofenac~~ Diclofenac sodium, ~~microcrystalline~~ Microcrystalline cellulose, ~~mannitol~~ Mannitol, ~~croscarmellose~~ Croscarmellose sodium and ~~lactose~~ Lactose are sifted and mixed together.

Page 13, replace the paragraph beginning at lines 31 - 32 (as numbered) which starts "4) Talc, Colloidal" with the following:

4) Talc, ~~colloidal~~ Colloidal silicon dioxide and ~~croscarmellose~~ Croscarmellose sodium are passed through fine sieve and mixed together.

Page 14, replace the paragraph beginning at line 2 - 3 (as numbered) which starts "7) Hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose" with the following:

7) Hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose is dispersed in a mixture of ~~isopropyl~~ Isopropyl alcohol and ~~dichloromethane~~ with continuous mixing in homogenizer.